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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.:	10/687,503	Confirmation No:	9046
Applicant :	Kevin Doll	Filed :	October 15, 2003
TC/A.U. :	1641	Examiner :	Lam, Ann Y.
Docket No.:	END-0887	Customer No. :	000027777

Title : **SURGICAL STAPLING INSTRUMENT HAVING A SINGLE
LOCKOUT MECHANISM FOR PREVENTIO OF FIRING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the
United States Patent And Trademarks Office.

Kimberly M. Moses 7-29-04
Kimberly M. Moses Date

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Amendments to the Specification on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page
 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page of this paper.

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